

In one night,
(September 21 to 22)
between DA NANG
and NHA TRANG

VIETNAM COURIER

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5th Year

THE P.L.A.F. ATTACKED 120 TARGETS

among them 5 cities and provincial capitals, 12 urban centres and district towns and 7 airfields including those of Da Nang, Nuoc Man, Chu Lai and Nha Trang.

- ① 9 enemy battalions and 9 companies wiped out or decimated throughout South Viet Nam in 9 days (including 5 battalions and 6 companies in 6 days in the "Toi Ninh" sector).
- ② A battalion of Thai mercenaries completely destroyed East of Saigon.
- ③ Nha Be oil complex at the gates of Saigon again pounded.

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Up to September 25, 1968

3,188 U.S. aircraft were downed in North Viet Nam

23rd ANNIVERSARY OF NAM BO RESISTANCE DAY

FOR INDEPENDENCE AND FREEDOM, ALL FOR OUR VICTORY OVER U.S. AGGRESSION!

(Excerpts from *Nhan Dan*'s editorial, Sept. 23, 1968)

Twenty three years ago, the gunfire of the Nam Bo (as—Cochinchina) Resistance burst in the heart of Saigon to save the people of the sacred resistance, our people against the French colonialist aggressors and the U.S. interventionists.

Throughout the past 23 years the people in the South part of the country have been displaying their iron will to fight for the independence and freedom of the Fatherland and their boundless loyalty to the Independence oath made in the

Declaration of Independence read by President Ho Chi Minh at the Ba Dinh Square on the historic day of September 2, 1945, that "the people of Southern Truong Ho (or Annam), rose up against the French colonialists, fighting at their distance—rifles, swords, spears, knives and sticks—against the aggressors. Shoulders to shoulder with the rest of the country, the South Vietnamese people fought for nine long years, fearless of difficulties and sacrifices, building their forces in the course of the fighting, and making a great contribution to the victory of the French aggressors and the liberation of North Viet Nam. For independence and freedom, after several years of grim struggle in the dark days of the Ngo Dinh Diem fascist regime,

the South Vietnamese people again stood up in the concert-uprisings of 1960-1960, watching over the U.S. offensive against the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen continuously developed their all-round people's war, foiling one after another all schemes and plots of the U.S. and their brought the anti-U.S. resistance for national salvation to the present stage of general offensive and total victory. In the present fight, the South Vietnamese people have promoted to a high peak the noble traditions of the nation and acquired invaluable experience in the revolutionary war. As in the past war of resistance against the French colonialists, in the present fight against the U.S. aggressors, despite innumerable hardships, they continue to fight with the same pride and

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A Victor's Smile



THIS is the picture of Vo Thi Theng, 23, a former student of the Gia Long Secondary School (Saigon) who on July 27, 1968 put death the treacherous puppet district chief of Phu Lam. Sentenced by a U.S.—Saigon court to 20 years' hard labour, she challenged the verdict with a calm, proud smile that so strikingly reflected her undauntedness in face of the enemy.

Vo Thi Theng's smile pours scorn on all the unfeeling, fascist trials conducted by the

U.S. aggressors and their henchmen in an attempt to intimidate the urban people of South Vietnam, more particularly the students and pupils. It is a forcible expression of the impetuous mettle of the townsfolk of South Viet Nam in their present widespread uprisings. On the other hand, it brings into bolder relief the isolation of the U.S. and puppets on their last legs. Her smile, full of optimism and confidence, spells out again that "the South Vietnamese people are winning and will win completely."

'All Vietnamese Should Rise Up Together to Defend National Freedom and Independence'

States Saigon student Nguyen Van Chin at a puppet press conference

In an attempt to intimidate the patriotic movement of students and pupils, the Thieu Ky clique produced at a news conference in Saigon on September 15 three party members from whom had illegally arrested in Cho Lon twelve days ago on charges of keeping "Vietcong" documents, according to Saigon reports.

The students were aged 16, 17 and 24.

At the news conference, colonel Tran Van Hai, the puppet police chief, tried to misrepresent and discredit the patriotic movement of the students against the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen.

Asked if he thought "the North was invading the South", Nguyen Van Chin said: "I do not make any difference between the North and the South. When the country is in danger, all Vietnamese should rise up together to defend national freedom and independence."

their patriotic stand.

Nguyen Van Chin, 24, student of the Social Sciences Faculty of Van Hanh University in Saigon, said: "I object to the presence of foreigners here and pressure from foreign imperialists on our country. Viet Nam must assert her independence and sovereignty."

Nguyen Van Chin stressed, "The Americans are here for their own interests, not for those of Viet Nam. Viet Nam must manage their affairs themselves".

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Xa Doai (Nghe An Province) diocese area turned into rubble by U.S. bombs



The cathedral before...



... and after the July 1968 U.S. raids.



In the cathedral, only this inscription was left: "Omnis terra adorat te et patat tibi" (Earth adores thee and everything praises thee).



The great seminary...



... and the small seminary after the bombings.

SINCE Johnson announced a "limited bombing" of North Viet Nam on March 31 last, the U.S. has been concentrating air bombardments on populated centres and agricultural areas from Thanh Hoa to the demilitarized zone. These attacks have increased 3 times and the amount of bombs and shells more than 7 times compared with the first three months of this year.

The U.S. aggressors' carefully planned raids on farming areas indicate their vicious scheme to deny food to the Vietnamese people.

1. SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF WATER CONSERVANCY WORKS

To hurt food production most in hitting at water conservancy works, U.S. planes selected targets accord-

ing to weather conditions. In the dry season from April to June, when water was badly needed in the fields for the growth of rice and vegetables, they started their attacks on dams, pumping stations, sluices, canals and they struck at sea dykes to let salt water in.

Over 300 sorties were flown against 17 dams. Cam Ly for instance, servicing tens of thousands of hectares of land in 2 districts of Quang Binh, was raided 30 times.

The large pumping stations of Lanh An and Thach Lam, Ha Tinh province, were constantly under fire. In April and May, Lanh Cam station was attacked 28 times.

Besides, 16 canals, 12 canal networks and 3 networks of sea dykes were also assaulted. Then June 13, U.S. planes dumped bombs on Truc Ly dyke, Quang Binh province, and salt water flowing in

U.S. HITS AT NORTH VIET NAM FOOD PRODUCTION

through the breaches raised tens of hectares of ricefield.

In the rains from July to September, they launched more than 200 attacks against dykes, destroying 30 dyke sections.

On June 13, 14 and 15, 220 demolition bombs were dropped over 7 dyke sections of the La river in Ha Tinh. In July, 4 dyke sections along the Giang river were hit, 2 of them 7 times and were heavily damaged; 30,000 cubic metres of earth were blasted away. On August 17, 6 F-4s set on a dyke section of the Ngan An and seriously damaged the dyke.

Then when the people were repairing it, the planes came again and released 60 demolition and blast bombs, killing 2 people who were repairing the project.

2. ATTACKS ON FOOD-PRODUCING MANPOWER, LAND AND MEANS AND FOOD RESERVES

ALL the 23 villages of Vinh Linh area, 122 out of 131 villages of

Quang Binh province, 214 out of 254 villages of Ha Tinh province, 282 out of 420 villages of Nghe An province have been targets to continue attacks with a high concentration of bombs and shells. In July and August, they received a daily average of 2,000 demolition bombs and 70 CBU's which destroyed houses, domestic animals, farming implements, seeds, vegetable plots, fruit trees, killing or wounding many civilians.

B-52 strategic bombers launched fierce attacks against Vinh Linh, destroying large areas. In the past 5 months, 670 B-52 carpet bombing have been carried out against 22 villages with 20,000 tons of bombs, killing or wounding hundreds of

people, destroying thousands of houses and a great amount of food and vegetables.

State farms and agricultural cooperatives, research stations and centers, technical training and organization of food production have been subject to round-the-clock raids. In July alone, B-52 undertook 44 carpet-bombings with 10,000 tons of bombs against more than 500 hectares of riceplots and vegetables.

At harvest time, steel-pellet and time bombs were dropped to interfere with the farmers' work. In June, in Bo Trach, Quang Binh, 1,000 hectares of ripening rice were littered with time-bombs. In Phu Kinh hamlet (Bo Trach) and Phu Linh hamlet (Bo Lang) rice fields were devastated by thousands of steel-pellet and demolition bombs.

When rice and maize were in ears, they were ruined by steel-pellet and demolition bombs. In April and May, over 2,000 hectares of rice and vegetables in Quang Binh were devastated by thousands of steel-pellet and demolition bombs in Thanh Lang alone.

Thousands of people of various nationalities and religious communities from town to the country rose up and took to the streets to stage a resolute struggle against the enemy. Several million demonstrators of people and several political demonstrations were joined by tens of thousands of people to denounce the U.S. and its lackeys.

The Tay Ninh people have recovered their right to be masters, at varying degree, of their own destiny in scores of villages and towns. An average of 500,000 population of the U.S. and its puppets.

The P.L.A.F. also destroyed

1,553 military vehicles

including 831 armoured cars,

358 big guns and mortars,

shot down 85 aircraft and sank to combat launches.

MANY-SIDED SUCCESSES

1. **HUS**, within five weeks, the army and people in Tay Ninh completely knocked out of action an entire regiment of the 25th U.S. Infantry Division, wiping out a number of American troops equivalent to a regimental combat force of a U.S. infantry division in the field. In terms of units, they wiped out a number of U.S. battalions greater than the total number of battalions making up a U.S. infantry division. The number of armoured cars destroyed was 100, and the number of armoured cars of a U.S. motorized infantry division and that of big guns destroyed was 100. The number of artillery pieces destroyed in the division of a U.S. infantry division. The army and people in Tay Ninh also wiped out or heavily damaged many units of the U.S. and its puppet guerrillas and special forces of the puppet army. Of the 10 battalions of the general reserve force and regular force, 9 were wiped out and dispatched to Tay Ninh; 6 battalions were either wiped out or heavily depleted.

2. In co-ordination with military actions, hundreds of

surprise attacks against U.S. and its puppet forces.

3. The campaign of political agitation among puppet troops was very active. Hundreds of families of puppet officers and soldiers received briefs of the NLF policy, and many of them volunteered to tell their dear ones out of the puppet army. That was the result of the many successes of more than 1,000 troops or personnel of the puppet administration.

OUTSTANDING FEATURES

1. **T**HE People's Liberation Armed Forces and people have held the initiative in hitting the enemy hard and continually in all parts of the province, forcing him into actions of self-defense. They inflicted on the enemy heavy losses averaging daily 40 men killed or wounded, nearly 40 big guns destroyed, and 4 heavy guns destroyed, planes shot down.

2. All the three categories of armed forces - regulars, regional forces and guerrillas - have recorded glorious victories. The main forces launched heavy attacks on the American fire support and combat bases and big units of the enemy moving along communication lines, wiping out whole battalions and companies of U.S. or puppet troops.

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4. The people's political action, which was closely co-ordinated with the P.L.A.F. military attacks and was disastrous for the U.S. and its puppet forces, gravitating their passivity and considerably weakening their strength.

The enemy received repeated blows within a short time and was forced to retreat on the same section of road.

Thus, within 5 days, the

U.S. and its puppet forces suffered a series of serious setbacks in their military operations, and were forced to withdraw from the field, the dead and their armoured cars so as to flee quicker. Many U.S. and puppet troops, either surrendered by the P.L.A.F.

The morale of enemy troops, both U.S. and puppet, was shaken and lower, the morale of our people was high.

The rare were the cases of enemy

troops

knocked

down

in

the

field

and

the

